remined to New York last evening with a new play, a successor to "The Honor of the Family," in which he was last seen This time Mr. Skinner has elected appear in a piece called "Your Humble Servant," a theatrical garment made especially to fit Mr. Skinner by that busy, if not almost overworked firm of playwrights. Booth Tarkington and Harry Leon Wilson.

Mr. Skinner and his new garment were on view last evening at the Garrick Theatre and both were received with many demonstrations of approval at the hands mentality has a strong hold on the affecof a large audience.

"Your Humble Servant" deals with the actor named Lajayet'e Towers, most of whose professional life is divided between playing things like "Fast Lynne" through the "tank towns" (as the one night stands are occasionally described forswears his vows for love of Thais. by the "profession") and devising ways cenery out of the hands of the Sheriff. Towers has all the characteristics which have led the public to believe are possessed by his type. He is warm hearted, generous, impulsive, exasperatingly simple, childishly naive, totally deficient in

worldly wisdom and always, always acting, "on and off."

Throughout all the vicissitudes of his hand to mouth existence he watches over Margaret Druce, a pretty girl whose parents, also actors, have left him as a bequest. To this girl he shows all the affection and consideration of a father, though the love he really feels for her is more passionate than parental. Margaret, however, thinks she loves young Richard Prentice, a lad who has quarrelled with his wealthy father and has run away to be an actor.

relled with his wealthy father and has run away to be an actor.

The story opens behind the scenes of the Weedsport Opera House with the Sheriff sitting on the costume trunks while a performance of "The Bandit's Bride" is going on. Rich father appears and begs wandering son to come home. Wandering son says he won't leave beautiful girl. But we are far less interested in that than in the man who makes the howling wind for the bitter little stage storm, likewise the hoofbeats of galloping horses and the tin thunderclaps that so terrify, while our interest is even greater norses and the thi thunderclaps that so terrify, while our interest is even greater in the ingenuity with which "buers evolves possible street costumes for Margaret, her young man and himself after the manager has absoonded with the night's receipts (all of \$129) and the hard hearted Sheriff has seized the company's trunks

pany's trunks.

Next we see all hands broke and living in a New York lodging house, where the gay bohemian life of the stage palls on gay bohemian life of the stage palls on the adoring Richard, who is persuaded to return to his rich father by a ruse evolved by Margaret, though she still thinks she loves the lad. But Towers is not discouraged. He still acts in the old pompous, oratorical manner, makes light of difficulties, cajoles the landlady and again in his simple bohemian manner falls a victim to the same old theatrical manager, to whom the lends his total fortune of \$14.50 to bet on a horse race. Oddly \$14.50 to bet on a horse race. Oddly enough the horse wins and, odder yet, the manager returns to divide the spoil. Oddly Business of rejoicing with bright days in

prospect.
The next scene. of course, is in the havurious New York home of young Prentice, where Towers and Margaret, disguised as the "Belmonts," a vaudeville team, come to help entertain a fashionable evening party. Prentice. again makes love to Margaret, who, "for his own good," alleges that she loves him no more but now loves Towers. The latter at first believes this too good to be true, though it is, but soon learns that the parental rôle is the one which he must still maintain.

It will surprise no one to learn that in the last act Margaret makes a huge New Englishman than a Parisian. His wife, ss as an actress and that the faithful Towers at last reaps the reward of his years of faithful care and devotion Now this story, essentially artificial as it is, would scarcely be claimed by its intelligent and experienced co-authors to merit much serious consideration. What Mr. Tarkington and Mr. Wilson have clearly tried to do is to furnish a background against which Mr. Skinner might exhibit another of those picturesque and vivid portraits of character which he has so often demonstrated his ability to compose.

In this they have been on the whole successful. The story in all its parts a not convincing. There is, for example, he more reason why Margaret should nove Tources in the fourth act than in the third, except of course that the fourth act is the last act and we must apparently laye a "happy ending."

act is the last act and we must appirently have a "happy ending."

The sentiment as a whole utterly lacks the ring of sincerity. But there is much delightful comedy in each of the four acts, and the chief character as drawn by the authors is a consistently picturesque and truly humorous type, to the impersonation of which Mr. Skinner successfully brings his ripened powers of characterization. The blithe manner in which he triumphs over the defection of the rascally manager, his vastly amusing preparations for the purchase of the \$14 stove that never is bought and his cajolery of the landlady who wants her money are particularly entertaining to witness and pleasant to remember, as

money are particularly entertaining to witness and pleasant to remember, as well as his distracted evidences of excitement on the night of Margaret's triumph. Likewise his devotion to the object of his love and his never falling self-abnegation he contrives to make as touching as the insincerity that taints these passages will allow.

It is an excellent performance by an excellent actor who deserves approval, especially in that he has never fallen a victim to the prevailing vice of exploiting the personality of the player at the expense of everything else. Mr. Skinner plays characters—not merely Mr. Skinner plays characters—not merely Mr. Skinner with the previously not much known to Broadway, in impersonating known to Broadway, in impersonating the actress contrives to invest that

#### SPECIAL NOTICES. SUICIDE

Steadily Increasing in the United States.

Recent statistics show the appalling fact that the victims of self-destruction in this country outnumber by more than ten to one the suicide records of the British Islands, and even by a larger proportion to those of France.

Sane persons, sound in body and mind, are rarely numbered among the victims in any country, but many forms of mental depression, despondency, caused by dyspepsia, catarrh of the stomach and kindred diseases, contribute largely to the "suicidal

tendency."
This condition can almost invariably be removed by proper and timely treatment of the cause, and the way is made plain by using Dr. Hoffman's fanous prescription, easily obtained at any drug store at a nominal cost for the three simple drugs, as follows:

Micarbonate of Soda Malac (in original package only) Light Calcined Magnesia

Mix thoroughly and take regularly after eating and at bedtime a small teaspoonful, with a half glass of hot water. Try it and be convinced of its efficiency. Be sure that you receive Bislac in original sealed packages when having this prescription filled.

offis Skinner's STAGE PLAY

Character with a touch of personal charm. Moreover she displays a natural and easy manner that is pleasant to observe. A. G. Andrews contributes a lively sketch as the manager who first absoconds but also peculiarly deliberate and manager who first absoconds but the manager who first absoconds but also peculiarly deliberate and manager who first absoconds but the manager who first absoconds but also peculiarly deliberate and recommendation of the most extraordinary line of mixed drinks ever seen ordinary line of

There were many curtain calls and after the third act Mr. Skinner had to make a little speech of thanks.

OPERA JOYS OF A DAY.

"Thais" at the Manhattan and Gluck at the Metropolitan.

There is a lesson of some kind to be drawn from the continued popularity of Massenet's "Thais" at the Manhattan Opera House, but just what the lesson is it is difficult to determine. That sentitions of the theatregoing public is no news, and it may be that the spectacle sentimental adventures of a barnstorming of the converted courtesan of Alexandria bruising her pink toes in peripatetic con-trition in the midst of a desert so melts the public heart that it is touched with inexpressible sympathy for the monk who

But on the other hand it may be that and means to keep his costumes and the true seductiveness of the performance lies in the admirable exhibition of the charms of Mary Garden, the stalwart the story writers and comic paper editors proportions and methods of Charles Dalmores and the psychological characterization of Mr. Renaud. These three accomplished exponents of contemporaneous fashions on the French stage worldly wisdom and always, always act- provide an evening of real pleasure. assenet's opera wears well in their hands. It is a question how long it would live if deprived of their services.

At the Metropolitan Opera House there was a large bouse for the first Monday night performance of Glick's "Orfeo." The beauty of this production has already been described in this paper. but it cannot too often be called to the attention of operagoers. It is worthy of the international prestige of the Metropolitan and it has brought much credit to the present management.

Mme. Homer's impersonation of Ories s by far the best thing she has done and gives her a high standing among operatic impersonators. Mme. Gadski's Euridie is notable for the excellence of its singing as well as for the dignity of its bearing. A word of praise is due Alma Gluck for the taste and smoothness of her singing in the small rôle of a spirit in the Elysian fields.

The size of last night's audience indicated a popular interest in the revival and this should be a subject for congratulation. There is need of a demonstration of the loftiness of an art which rests for its charm on musical beauty and chaste reposefulness of style. It is good for operagoers to realize that a story of dramatic emotion can be embodied in music which does not depend for its allurements on excited style exotic instrumentation and violations of the æsthetics of singing. Gluck's "Orfeo' makes this demonstration most beautifully. Not a little of the potency of the exposition is due to the understanding and devotion of Arturo Toscanini.

#### "THE AFFINITY."

Laurence Irving and Wife Appear in "The

Incubus" Under a New Name. Laurence Irving's adaptation of Eugene Brieux's comedy, "Les Hannetons," which was first produced in this country for two matinées on April 28 and 30 last at the Hackett Theatre under the title "The Incubus," was given last evening at the Comedy Theatre under the new name of

Mabel Hackney, as Charlotte, found herself after the first act. In that act she had not quite fallen into sympathy with her part. Charles W. Butler as The Man From Below gave an amusing exhibition of a little Parisian imbued with false pomp and bravado.

YALE BOYS GOOD AS GIRLS.

'London Assurance," With Orchestra Pistel Shots, a Credit to the Collegians.

It wasn't until Grace Harkaway (A. M. Hartwell, '11) took the stage in the second "London Assurance," Dion Boucicault's comedy, given in the Waldorf ballroom last night by the Yale University Dramatic Association, that the average theatregoer lost the impression that he was being cheated out of his natural rights in an amateur performance. But don't get the impression that this was because Mr. Hartwell's acting was not all it should have been. On the contrary, he is a most bewitching girl. Mr. Hartwell's fame as a college stage lady is secure.

Naturally you are harldy prepared for a rich barytone when a dainty young woman all curls and furbelow opens her mouth. The contrast startled the relatives and friends of the players into laughter, and the young women of the audience, which filled the ballroom, giggled with every line.

As has been suggested, the college players do this sort of thing almost too well. The Yale players had made seven previous appearances in "London Assur-ance" and had worn off any rough edges that may have been apparent earlier in their season. The stage management and setting, under the direction of Frank Lee Short, assisted by Frederick C. Tom-son, was all that could be wished.

The Yale orchestra, led by W. F. Dex-heimer, Jr., 1910 Sheffield, added a startling feature to the overture by accentuating passages with revolver shots fired by the drummer.

the drummer.

The first act, in which E. K. Woolley, '11, as Sir Harcourt Courtly; W. de F. Manice.' '11, as Charles Courtly; H. T. Warren, '10, as Dassle, and M. G. Ely, '10 S., as Cool, held the stage, moved as smoothly as if given by a capable processional company. Mr. Woolley's conception and depiction of the character of Sir Harcourt deserves more than a word of praise. His work was well sustained and gained in force through the five acts. gained in force through the five acts.
Manice was a handsome son to Str Harcourt and Warren aldashing Dazzle. M.G.
Ely as the perfect valet won well deserved

Ely as the perfect valet won well deserved applause.

Of course in a college play the interest centres in the "girls." Hartwell's Grace Harkauay was ably seconded by J. E. Brown, 1913, as Perf. a maid. The finest stage lady of them all, however, was W. C. Bullitt, 1912, whose Lady Gay Spanker, assisted by a wonderful Titlan red wig and a flexible voice, was a triumph of impersonation. In fact the dashing Lady Gay Spanker was so much in character that it was rather difficult to remember that the was a he. In the description of the steeplechase Mr. Bullitt won sincere applause which was repeated after Lady Gay Spanker's scene with Sir Harcourt in the last act.

T. L. Riggs, 1910, as Dolly Spanker, lightweight husband to the overpowering Lady Gay; H. T. Warren, 1910, as Maz Harkaway and H. Oberbauer, 1910, as Mark Meddle, a lawyer, cannot be overlooked in speaking of an unusually efficient cast.

The association will repeat its perform—

e association will repeat its perform-at the Waldorf to-night.

In order to facilitate the settlement of the estate of the late Mr. J. P. Howard

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offer for a limited time, their magnificent stock of

Diamond Jewelry, Pearl Necklaces Antique and Modern Silver Gold Jewelry

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#### SAVE FORESTS, SAYS WHIPPLE

ADIRONDACKS BEING ROBBED OF LIFE GIVING POWER.

State Commissioner Pleads for More Pur chases of Land-Says It is Essential to Prosperity-Trees Going Fast-Great Danger to People Generally

Straight from the Adirondacks where n Sunday he was on snowshoes, to the City Club in Forty-fourth street, came Forest, Fish and Game Commissioner lames S. Whipple, and there in the stuffy clubhouse last evening he discoursed with enthusiasm on the duty and necessity of protecting New York State's trees.

"We have 27 per cent, of the whole water ower of the United States in New York the Commissioner exclaimed, and it is the more valuable if harnessed-1,000 lakes, 100 streams. There are the balsam fir, spruce, pine and hemlock, the rees that purify the air, and there is not blast of air blowing across the Adirondacks that has a malevolent germ in it so far as known. And when it is remembered that there are 55,000 victims of the white plugue in this State and that 9,000,000 people from other States are within twenty-four hours of this region, it is plain to be seen that the people of New York State could do a great work if they bent their energies to the protection of

bent their energies to the protection of the forests for that purpose alone.

"It requires fifteen acres of this woodland to supply the paper for a single Sunday edition of a big New York newspaper alone, and we are using for all purposes 55.000.000,000 board feet of lumber every year. In every school of the State the rudiments of f restry should be taught and every child should especially be taught the danger from fire. A single match dropped in any ne of a million places in the Adirondacks may produce \$1,000, \$5.000, \$5500,000 fire damage.

"Without trees in the State of New York you cannot have running water constantly in this city. You are spending \$162,000,000 for a new water supply and not a dollar for preserving the sources of that supply. All the mountain tops are right now being denuded where the land is held in private ownership.

right now being denuded where the land is held in private ownership.

"The Fsopus River last summer didn't have a drop running into it, and that is where your chief supply is to come from. The Mokawk, once a mighty stream, last August was a rivulet and the poet had he lived would have been ashamed to think that he had ever thought it a subject for poetry. And all because the storage reservoir of nature, the forests, has been destroved.

reservoir of nature, the forests, has been destroyed.

"All the people of New York ought to plant trees. Why shouldn't I have 500 acres to plant trees? If the water sources fail, the fish supply will fail and three-fourths of the enormous consumption of fish for food here comes from our own water courses. It is costing \$33 an acre to reforest France, and we can do such work here for \$8.50.

"The wood supply of the country is going at least five times faster than nature's reproduction. The people of the State of New York and the State as such should plant for many years, commencing now, at least \$50,000,000 trees a year if we are safely to provide for the not distant future. The simple statement of these facts will indicate how rapidly the forests are going and how soon we shall be without any. What right have you to bring children into the world to reap so dry a heritage? You have none."

#### COLUMBIA THEATRE OPENED.

Attractive New Broadway Playhouse to Be Devoted to Burlesque.

A new theatre, the Columbia, at Broadway and Forty-seventh street, opened last night with a good sized company, a burlesque show of the old fashioned type and a crowd that filled the house

The entertainment was especially strong in titles. "Follies of New York and Paris, or Night Life in Two Cities," names that held forth promise attractive enough for any one seeking diversions of that kind. It was supposed to "introduce" Charles Howard, "the magnetic little comedian."

Mr. Howard gave a Hebrew characterization of the traditional type in much the usual manner. Miss Jane Austin was apparently his chief assistant. She managed to display some unique and somewhat abbreviated costumes of lavendar and baby blue and helped along generously with the singing.
Two young men, Powder and Chap-

man, received a good deal of the applause by their skilful dancing. The Six Abdallahs were another good feature. Some of the dances by the chorus were

The new house is attractive in its new The new house is attractive in its new decorations of red and gold, its comfortable chairs and its very energetic corps of uniformed Japanese ushers. The management aims at a good Broadway burlesque house, and by their motto of a new show every week promise that "The Follies" will be soon replaced.

Porter Clyde Shannon, son of John Porter Shannon, and Miss Alice Demorest Wilson, daughter of George Thomson Wilson, were married at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon in the Central Presbyterian Church, in in the Central Presbyterian Church, in Fifty-seventh street. The Rev. Dr. Wilton Merle Smith, pastor of the church, performed the ceremony. Miss Elsie Charlotte Wilson, the bride's sister, was the maid of honor. Her gown was of pink chiffon with hat to match and she carried a bouquet of pink roses. The bridesmaids were the Misses Edith Cook, Alice Demorest, Beatrice Barclay, Elisabeth Bonbright, and Ethel Keen. Miss Charlotte Katharine Demorest was the flower girl and the two pages were Gilpert Curtis Demorest and James Flanagan Deckert.

Richard W. P. Barnes was the best man and the ushers were William Livingston Flanagan, John Roberts Flanagan, Carroll Winchester, Jr.. James Earle, Robert A. Bonner and George Horton Glover, Jr. A wedding reception followed the ceremony at the home of the bride's parents, 145 West Fifty-eighth street.

#### 1910-Will You Help Make It Happy?

Will you help to drive out hunger, cold, illness, anxiety, from many worthy homes in our care to-day?

\$5 to \$10 is the average need. Send to R. S. Minturn, Treas., Room 211, No. 105 E. 22nd St., N. Y. ASSOCIATION FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE POOR.

NEWS OF PLAYS AND PLAYERS.

Miss Annie Russell to Play Lady Teazle in the New Theatre's Cast. Miss Annie Russell will add one more rôle to her répertoire on next Monday evening when she will make her initial appearance at the New Theatre as Lady Teazle in "The School for Scandal." For many years Miss Russell sought an opportunity to give her own interpretation of Sheridan's coquette, but until now she has been disappointed. Her chance came when the demand for the play in duced Director Ames to continue "The School for Scandal" in the repertoire after

School for Scandal" in the repertoire after Miss George—the theatre's original Lady Teazle—resumed her road tour. Miss Russell will be the only member not in the cast during the holidays.

Beginning to-night Grace Elliston will be seen in the rôle of Paula Marsh in Charles Klein's play "The Next of Kin," now playing at the Hudson Theatre, succeeding Hedwig Reicher, who has resigned. Miss Elliston was the original Shirley Rossmore in Mr. Klein's play "The Lion and the Mouse."

SPENCER TRASK'S FUNERAL.

Stores and Schools Closed in Saratoga and All Church Belis Tolled.

SARATOGA, Jan. 3.-The funeral of Spencer Trask, the New York banker, who was killed Friday in a wreck on the New York Central Railroad at Croton, N. Y., was held this morning in Bethesda Episcopal Church. While the funeral was in progress the village stores were closed, the schools held no sessions and bells tolled from every church. All of the village boards and local organizations were officially represented at the funeral. and in the throng which crowded the edifice were many business and personal friends of Mr. Trask, including Edward M. Shepard of Brooklyn, George Foster Peabody, his partner for forty years; Thomas M. Osborne, up-State Public Service Commissioner; Dr. Walter Laidlaw, representing the New York Federation of Churches, of which Mr. Trask was the first chairman; members of the National Arts Club, of which he was president at the time of his death, and Ben Greet, whose players presented Mrs. Trask's play, "The Little Town of Bethlehem," in this village a week ago. The simple funeral services included only the ritual of the Episcopal Church, the Rev. Dr. Carey, the rector, officiating, and several hymns which were Mr. Trask's favorites. In accordance with the wishes of the family there were no floral offerings and no eulogy was delivered. and in the throng which crowded the edi-

floral offerings and no eulogy was de-livered.

The bearers were eight employees who had served longest on the Trask estate.

They will remain with the body until its cremation at Troy to-morrow and will accompany the ashes to Brooklyn, where on Wednesday they will be interred in Greenwood Cemetery. The condition of Mrs. Trask, who has been prostrated since the accident, is serious.

#### Obituary Notes.

Miss Evangeline E. Whitney, who for he last seven years had been a district Diaz, superintendent of the Board of Education in charge of playgrounds, recreation centres and summer schools, died vesterday morning at her home, 855 St. Mark's avenue, Brooklyn, in her fifty-seventh year. She became ill from overwork about three months ago and was later operated on for appendicitis at the Seney Hospital. On Saturday last, when all hope of her recovery was abandoned, she was taken to her home. When 17 years old she was graduated from Oberlin College, Ohio, and soon afterward became a teacher in a primary school in Brooklyn. She was steadily promoted, and in 1897, after serving as principal of several schools, she was made a district superintendent. In 1902, when consolidation took place, she was put at the head of the playground and recreation system of the Educational Department, and her management was successful throughout. Her only surviving relatives are four nieces. Judge George Freifeld, a former member of the Board of Education, who was counsel for Miss Whitney, has charge of the funeral arrangements.

David Christie, one of the oldest builders in the city, died of pneumonia on Sunday morning at his residence, 177 West Ninety-fifth street. He was born in this city in 1827. His building operations extended over a large part of the city, but in the last twenty-five years more especially over the upper West Side, which he saw grow up from a region of farms and what was termed for many years 'squatter and goat town.' His real estate holdings were very large. He never retired entirely from active business and at the time of his death was engaged in erecting some buildings in The Bronx. He was twice married, his first wife having been Martha Quackenbush, who died on December 10, 1874, and his second wife Louisa Hopkins, who died on July 25, 1902. He left five children, three by his first wife, namely George, Frank Henry and David Seymour Christie, and two children by his second wife. Miss Elsie Wallace Christie and Chester Irving Christie.

Absalom Nelson Ingersoll, who served as a Gorporel of Marines in the civil war on and summer schools, died vesterday morn-

Wallace Christie and Chester Irving Christie.

Absalom Nelson Ingersoll, who served as a Corporal of Marines in the civil war on the Brooklyn under Admiral Farragut, died at his home in Ossining on Saturday. He was born in Shrub, Oak, Westchester county, in 1841 and was educated at the Peekskill Military Academy. Twenty-three years ago he was appointed a keeper at Sing Sing Prison and held his place up to his last illness. He was a member of Westchester Lodge, F. and A. M.: of Buckingham Chapter, R. A. M., and of Westchester Commandery, K. T. His wife, a son and a daughter survive him.

William Beard Merrall, one of the directive of the survive him.

daughter survive him.

William Beard Merrall, one of the directors of the Acker-Merrall-Condit Company, died at his home, 5 West Ninety-first street, yesterday afternoon. He was the son of the founder of the firm, William J. Merrall, and had been active in the business nearly thirty years. He was born in New York in 1880, went to Columbia Grammar School, and after that entered the business of his father. His wife and four children survive him. He was a member of the New York Athletio Club, the Hackensack Golf Club and the Mercantile Exchange. The funeral will be in Thursday.

Henry L. Shippy died of cancer on Sunday.

will be on Thursday.

Henry L. Shippy died of cancer on Sunday night in his apartment at the Irvington, 408 Central Park West. Mr. Shippy was 64 years of age and up to a year ago was treasurer, manager and director of the John A. Roebling's Sons Company. Mr. Shippy had been connected with the Roeblings for thirty-five years, or since he came to New York from Emilic, Bucks county, Pa., where he was born. His father, Amos Shippy, is still living and he is also survived by a wife and two daughters. His family at present is in Europe, his wife being an invalid.

Theodore Maynard, teller of the Brockley.

His family at present is in Europe, his wife being an invalid.

Theodore Maynard, teller of the Brooklyn Savings Bank, died on Sunday of cancer at his home, 563 Ocean avenue, in his sixtyninth year. He had been connected with the institution since 1866. He was a member of the Knickerbooker Club and was formerly active in Republican politics in the Flatbush district. He is survived by his wife, two sons and two daughters.

Joseph H. Mack died at his residence, 117 Garfield place, Brooklyn, yesterday. He was born in this city forty-two years ago. He was born in this city forty-two years ago. He was educated at St. Mary's College, san Francisco, Cal. At the time of his death Mr. Mack was an advertisement manager for the World. He is survived by his wife and two daughters

Dr. Alfred Masthias Spalding died yesterday at Speonk, L. I. Dr. Spalding was born in this city fifty years ago. He was graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1883 and he began practice for himself in this city. He was a member of the Academy of Medicine and of the county and State medical societies.

## How would you like to grow young again—

younger and younger, until you began to think about a good preparatory school for yourself?

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Rosa Bonheur, Unrestricted public sale

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